CHAPTER 202
EGGPLANT ROMANCE

2

PLEASE RIDE CAREFULLY!
OKAY EVERY-ONE, LINE UP!
SPIRIT MOUNT STAND
CHATTER
It's the last day of the Obon festival*, and all the visiting spirits are heading back to the Other World.

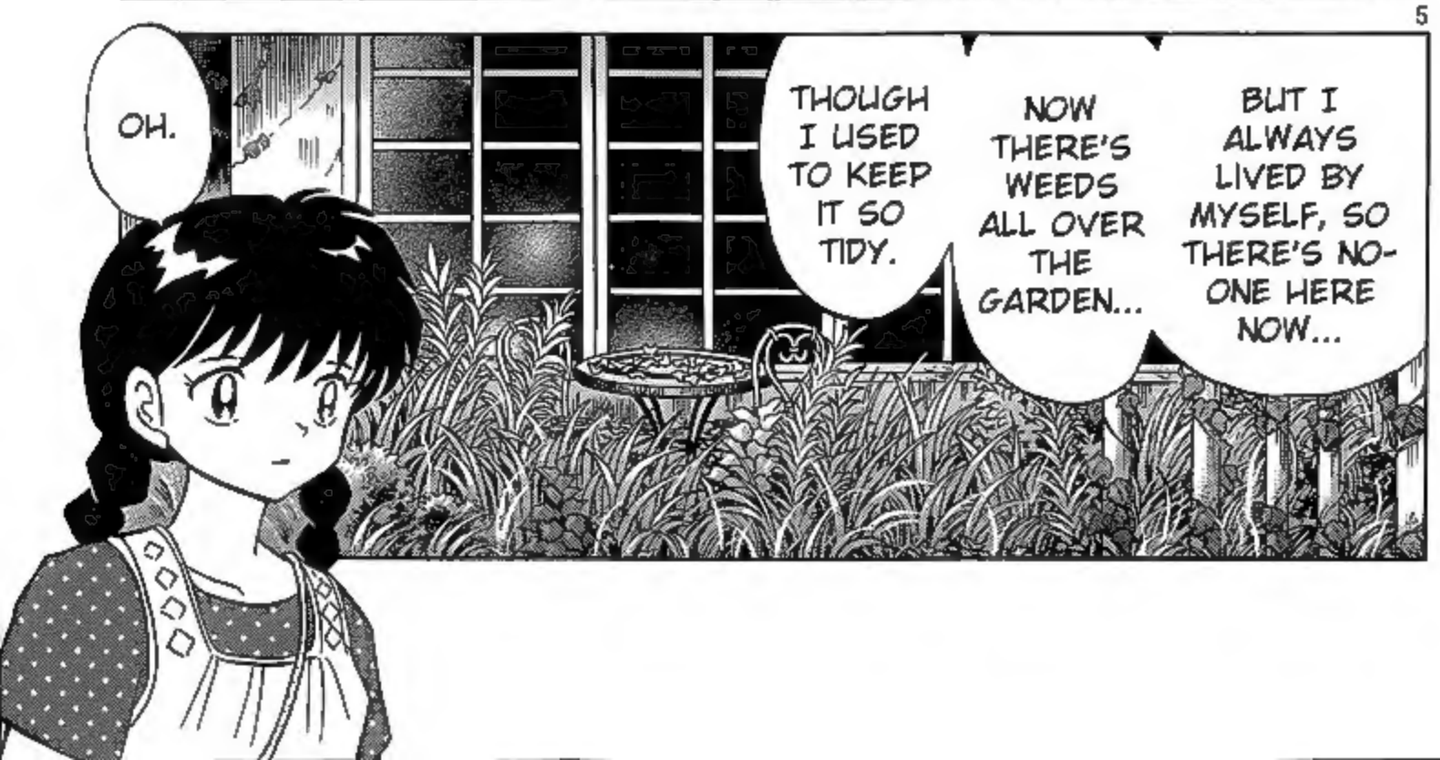
* OBON IS A LATE-SUMMER JAPANESE FESTIVAL. PEOPLE CAN RETURN TO THEIR ANCESTRAL HOMES TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS TO THE SPIRITS OF DEPARTED ANCESTORS, WHO RETURN TO EARTH DURING OBON.

And then slowly return to the Other World on eggplant cows.
They briefly visit the living world on cucumber horses,
During this time the spirits rode on spirit mounts.
OH, IF IT ISN'T PART-TIME WORKER ROKUDOU.
CAN I HAVE THE SURPLUS EGGPLANTS?
HEY KAIN,
The event is supervised by the Life Adminis-tration Bureau.
3
HUH.
THERE IS ONLY ONE EGGPLANT FOR EACH SPIRIT.
THERE ARE NO SURPLUS EGG-PLANTS.

4

The spirit was lingering outside an unoccupied house.

SIGH
IT'S AN OLD GRANNY SPIRIT...
I RODE HERE ON A CUCUM-BER HORSE.
THIS IS ACTUALLY MY FIRST TIME RETURNING ...
I SEE... YOU LIVED IN THIS HOUSE.
INDEED... UNTIL AUTUMN LAST YEAR.
YES?
UMM...


OH.
THOUGH I USED TO KEEP IT SO TIDY.
NOW THERE'S WEEDS ALL OVER THE GARDEN...
BUT I ALWAYS LIVED BY MYSELF, SO THERE'S NO-ONE HERE NOW...

JUST THE GUY WE NEED.
OH, ROKU-DOU-KUN.
FOUND HER!
Whooosh
MAMIYA SAKURA !?
JUST HOP ON HERE, AND...
IT'S TIME TO GO BACK TO THE OTHER WORLD.
PLODDING

6

EGG-PLANT !?
AN E-

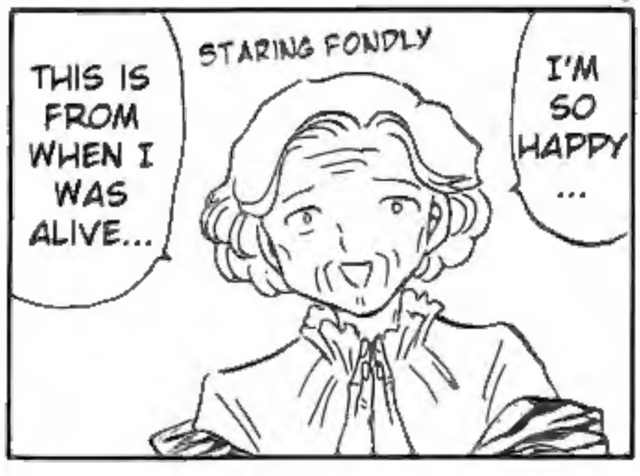
I CAN'T STAND EGG-PLANTS!!
NO!!
SHAKING
HAIIIYA!!
CHOP
WHAT THE HECK WAS THAT ALL ABOUT!?
WHA-?
7
NO KIDDING. LOOKS LIKE...
IF SHE DOESN'T LIKE 'EM THAT MUCH, THEN THERE'S NO WAY SHE CAN RIDE ONE.
I CAN'T REMEMBER... I CAN'T REMEMBER... AND YET I CAN'T STAND THEM!
DID YOU HAVE SOME KINDA BAD EXPERIENCE WITH EGGPLANTS OR SOMETHING ...?

THIS JUST BECAME A JOB FOR A SHINIGAMI!
WHICH MEANS I'LL BE EXPECTING EXTRA PAY FOR THIS.
BAH! NOT LIKE I HAVE I HAVE A CHOICE HERE.
IMPOSING
HOW'D ROKUDOU-KUN CONVINCE HIM SO EASILY?
WELL, KAIN THE SHINIGAMI CLERK IS JUST A RECORD KEEPER.
HELPING PEOPLE PASS ON IS RINNE-SAMA'S JURIS-DICTION.
THE PROBLEM HERE IS THAT SHE HATES EGGPLANTS ...
SO THE QUICKEST SOLUTION WOULD BE TO FIND OUT WHY...
8
I'LL JUST USE THE MEMORY-TYPE NIGHT PRO-JECTOR.
STAB
The memory-type Night Projector!

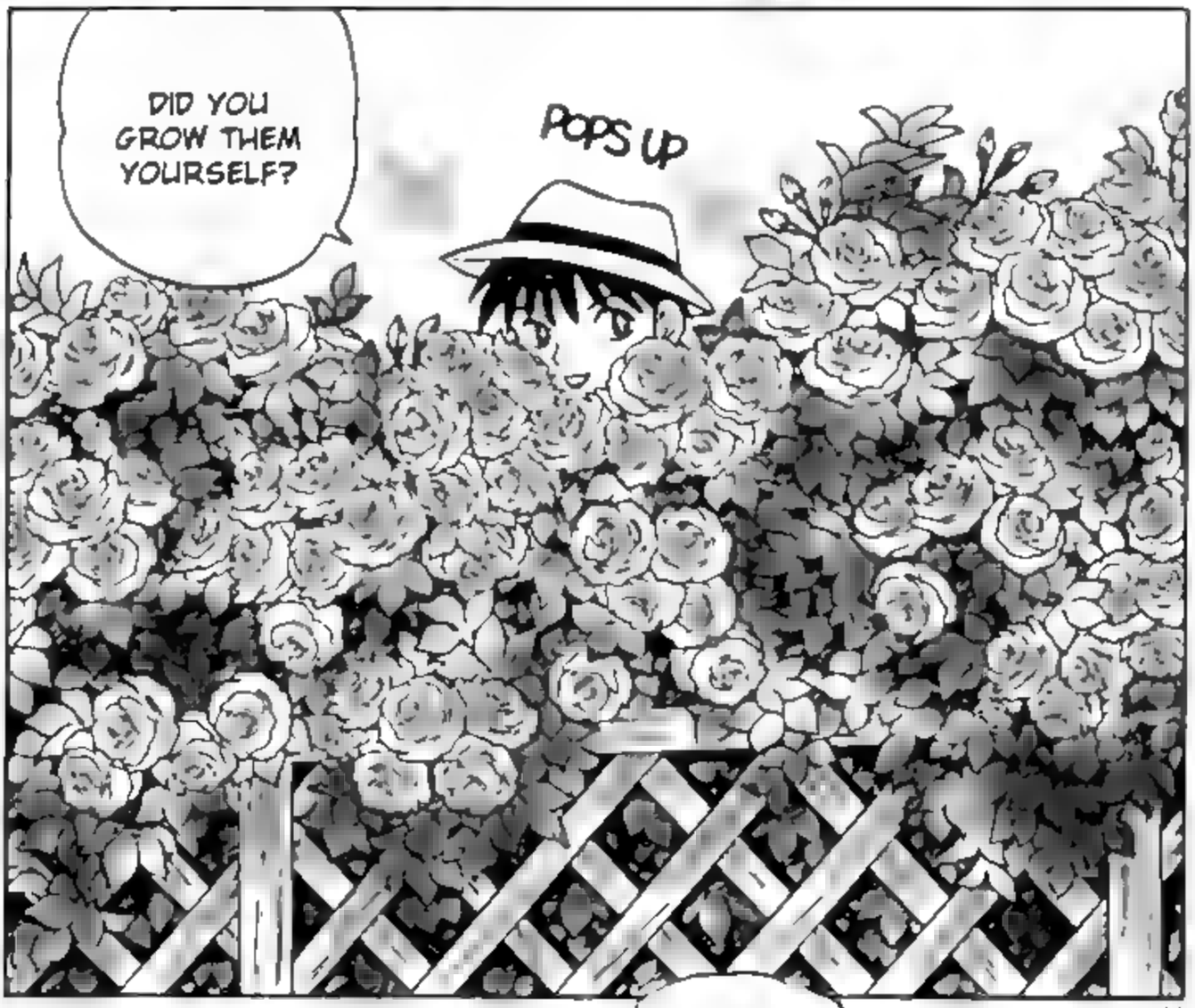
This item will project scenes from the past at its present location.
SHINING BRIGHTLY
fwoosh

WOW ...
HOW BEAU-TIFUL...

I DON'T SEE ANY CLUES IN THIS GARDEN AS TO WHY SHE HATES EGG-PLANTS...
BUT...


THIS IS FROM WHEN I WAS ALIVE...
STARING FONDLY
I'M SO HAPPY ...

HUH!?
I USED TO GROW THEM IN MY GARDEN.
AH, THIS TAKES ME BACK.
BUT AREN'T THESE EGG-PLANTS?
SO THERE WAS A TIME YOU DIDN'T HATE EGGPLANTS...
YOU GREW EGG-PLANTS...?
MMMM, THOSE EGGPLANTS LOOK DELICIOUS.
JUST WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED...!?



11

THAT YOUNG MAN SAID HE LIKED EGGPLANTS...
IT'S COMING BACK TO ME LITTLE BY LITTLE ...
OHH...
SO WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THAT GUY?
AND WE'D CHAT OVER THE HEDGE.
AFTER THAT, HE'D OCCASIONALLY PEEK INTO MY GARDEN,
I BEGAN LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING HIM.
AFTER WE'D SPOKEN A NUMBER OF TIMES,
ABOUT WHAT?
OH, BUT YOU'LL LAUGH.
12
SO...
HUH.

YOU SEE, I THOUGHT HIS FACE BORE AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO MY DEAR DEPARTED HUSBAND...
JUST LET THIS ONE SLIDE, ROKUMON.
COULD IT HAVE BEEN YOUR IMAGIN-ATION?

YEAH ...
WASN'T THIS CONVER-SATION ABOUT EGG-PLANTS ?

THE FINAL LOVE OF MY LIFE.
blush
SO YOU LEARNED TO LOVE HIM?

13

AT LEAST ...!?
BUT AT LEAST ...
I MEAN OF COURSE HE WAS YOUNG ENOUGH TO BE MY GRANDSON, SO I DIDN'T PLAN TO DATE HIM...

AND THEN ...?
EGG-PLANTS !?
THAT'LL DEFINITELY MAKE HIM HAPPY.
I'LL GIVE HIM SOME OF THESE AUTUMN EGGPLANTS AS A GIFT...
AND THEN...
Trembling
YEAH ...
MAYBE HE REFUSED THE EGGPLANTS!?
WAS IT SOMETHING SO UNPLEASANT SHE DOESN'T WANT TO REMEMBER IT?
WHAT-!?
WAAAAH-! I CAN'T REMEMBER-!!

Waaaah!
THAT OLD HAG SHOULD KNOW BETTER, AT HER AGE...
Girl-friend
GIVE IT A REST, GRANNY.
Fan-tasy

TH-
gasp
gasp
THAT'S REALLY SAD...
AND EVER SINCE THEN IT'S BEEN HARD FOR HER TO LOOK AT EGGPLANTS?
THAT DOES SEEM PRETTY UNPLEASANT.
15
HAVE YOU HURT YOURSELF !?
IT'S THAT GUY!?
I'M COMING IN!
IS EVERY-THING OKAY!?
IT FEELS LIKE IT WAS WORSE, SOMEHOW ...
THAT'S NOT IT...
pain!
I FELT A SUDDEN PAIN IN MY CHEST, AND THEN...
THAT'S RIGHT, ON THE DAY I DIED...
INTO MY GARDEN ...
DASHING
THAT GUY PASSED BEYOND MY FENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

16

SO...?
RUSTLE
HMM MMM.
SCRATCH SCRATCH
NOW WE KNOW THE CAUSE, HOW CAN WE RESOLVE THIS?
UMM...
THEN THE OLD LADY WON'T BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE OTHER WORLD.
RIGHT... IF SHE CAN'T RIDE THE EGGPLANT COW,
THE EGGPLANT GUY!?
HUH!?
THE GRAND-DAUGHTER OF THE LADY WHO LIVED HERE, PERHAPS?
ARE YOU ...

SINCE THIS IS THE FIRST OBON FESTIVAL SINCE SHE PASSED AWAY...
UMM... CAN I HELP YOU?
The eggplant guy can only see Sakura right now.
I WANTED TO LEAVE THESE FLOWERS FOR HER.
...I'M SURE THEY'LL MAKE HER VERY HAPPY.
OH MY ...
18
AND YET SHE CALLS HIM MR. EGGPLANT.
HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY...
OH, MR. EGG-PLANT.
And with that, Obon ended peacefully.
IT'S KINDA RUDE.

Roselia Scanlations

KYOUKAI NO RINNE

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